

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: AUDIBERT et al

Serial No.:

Filed: February 9, 2001

For: Cement Slurries Comprising Hydrophobic Polymers

Group:

Examiner:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 9, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of this application and prior to calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 3, line 1, delete "any one of the previous claims" and insert --claim 1--.

Claim 4, line 1, delete "any one of the previous claims" and insert --claim 1--.

**REMARKS**

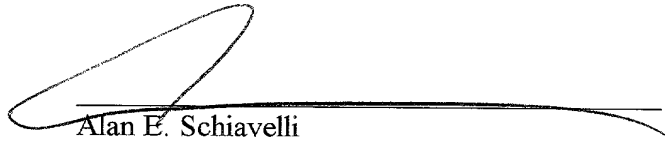
The foregoing amendments are respectfully requested prior to examination on the merits of this application.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry,

Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 612.39487X00), and  
please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan E. Schiavelli', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alan E. Schiavelli  
Registration No. 32,087

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